

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1 of the specification before the paragraph entitled "Field of the invention."

JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT

This invention was made under a Joint Research Agreement between NTN Corporation, Japan, Asahi Glass Matex Co. Ltd., Japan, and Mitsubishi Rayon Co. Ltd., Japan. The term of the Joint Research Agreement is from December 1, 2000 to March 31, 2002.